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Docket No.: 0171-1248PUS1

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Kensuke ITAKURA et al.

International Application No.: PCT/JP2004/008563

Application No.: NEW

Art Unit: N/A

Filed: December 9, 2005

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: POWDERS, FLAKES, OR PELLETS

CONTAINING SALTS OF α -SULFO FATTY

ACID ALKYL ESTERS IN HIGH

CONCENTRATIONS, PROCESS FOR

PRODUCTION THEREOF, GRANULATED

DETERGENTS, AND PROCESS FOR

PRODUCTION THEREOF

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

The following preliminary amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

This amendment includes:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.